AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) In a computer, a method comprising steps of:

~~receiving user input~~ identifying a symbol as a shorthand entry for a text expansion, a program and a function that takes an input and produces an output based at least on the input;

associating the text expansion, the program, and the function with the symbol;

receiving handwritten user input;

determining whether the handwritten user input represents the symbol;

automatically determining a context in which the handwritten user input is received ~~written~~;

choosing between one or more of the text expansion, the program or the function depending upon the determined context; and

depending upon the outcome of the choosing step carrying out one or more of tasks selected from a group comprising: displaying the text expansion or launching the program or producing the output of the function associated with the symbol ~~as the input~~.

2-12. (Canceled).

13. (Original) A computer-readable medium storing computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in claim 1.

14. (Currently Amended) In a computer, a method comprising steps of:

receiving a handwritten user input including at least a first handwritten user input, the ~~first~~ handwritten input being at least a shorthand entry associated with both expanded text and a program;

determining whether the handwritten user input includes second handwritten user input in addition to the first handwritten user input;

choosing between either the expanded text or the program depending upon whether the handwritten user input includes the second handwritten user input; and

in response to the ~~first~~ handwritten user input, either displaying the expanded text or launching the program, depending upon the outcome of the choosing step.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the first handwritten user input consists of a single word.

16. (Canceled).

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, further including:

comparing the first handwritten user input with a predetermined set of symbols; and

based on the step of comparing, determining either the expanded text or the program.

18. (Canceled).

19. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the second handwritten user input includes any handwritten user input other than the first handwritten user input that is simultaneously displayed with the first handwritten user input.

20. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the second handwritten user input consists of any handwritten user input on a same line as the first handwritten user input and simultaneously displayed with the first handwritten user input.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the step of choosing includes determining whether a total handwritten user input word count is equal to one, and if so, then determining that the handwritten user input does not include the second handwritten input.

22. (Canceled).

23. (Canceled).

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, further including third determining whether all handwritten user input has stopped, the step of choosing being performed in response to determining that all handwritten user input has stopped.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, further including a step of waiting a predetermined period of non-zero time after the step of receiving, the step of choosing being performed after the step of waiting.

26. (Original) A computer-readable medium storing computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in claim 14.

27. (Currently Amended) In a computer, a method comprising steps of:

receiving handwritten user input;

recognizing the handwritten user input to determine a symbol;

determining expanded text represented by the symbol;

determining a function represented by the symbol wherein the function takes ~~the symbol as~~ an input and generates an output;

determining a program represented by the symbol; ~~and~~

automatically determining a context in which the symbol is received; and

executing one or more of either displaying the expanded text or launching the program or generating the function output depending upon [[a]] the context of the handwritten user input.

28-33. (Canceled).

34. (Original) A computer-readable medium storing computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in claim 27.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, further including:
prior to receiving the first handwritten user input, receiving user input identifying the text expansion and the program.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, further including, prior to receiving the handwritten user input, receiving user input identifying the symbol, the text expansion, and the program.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the method includes:
determining a number of words in the handwritten user input; and
displaying the expanded text if the number of words in the handwritten user input is greater than one, and launching the program if the number of words in the handwritten user input is equal to one.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the context includes a number of words in the handwritten user input.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the method includes:
determining a number of words in the handwritten user input; and
displaying the expanded text if the number of words in the handwritten user input is greater than one, and launching the program if the number of words in the handwritten user input is equal to one.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the context is associated an entity receiving the handwritten user input and a number of symbols in the handwritten user input.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, the handwritten user input does not include the second handwritten input and therefore launching the program associated with the first handwritten user input.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the total handwritten user input count is greater than one and based on a determination that the handwritten user input includes the second handwritten user input either replacing the first handwritten user input with the expanded text or displaying the first and second handwritten user inputs.